Instructor: Dr. Charles Rivasplata and Dr. Richard Lee
Office location: Washington Square (WSQ) 216
Telephones: Dr. Rivasplata: 415-656-6844 / Dr. Lee: 510-387-0996
E-mails: charles.rivasplata@sjsu.edu / richard.lee@sjsu.edu
Office hours: Wednesdays, 6:10–7:10 p.m.
Class days/time: Wednesdays, 7:30-10:00 p.m.
Classroom: Hugh Gillis Hall 122
Prerequisites: URBP 256: Instructor consent
URBP 156/ENVS 156: Upper division standing
Units: 4

Course Catalog Descriptions (by Section)

URBP 256 (Graduate Section): Examination of transportation planning issues addressed at the neighborhood and municipal level, such as bicycle and pedestrian planning, traffic calming, and parking policy, with a focus on promoting sustainable communities.

URBP 156 (Undergraduate Section): In general, same focus as URBP 256. Prerequisites: Upper division standing or instructor consent.

Course Description and Course Learning Objectives:

This course is designed to help the student better understand many of the local issues confronting transportation and learn ways of making these systems more efficient and sustainable in the long term. It will both acquaint the student with some of the key concerns of transportation planners working in local government and help her/him develop proficiency in the skills needed to improve mobility in towns and cities.

In addition, this course is intended to help prepare students for employment as a transportation planner or policy analyst. There are a growing number of such positions with local, regional, and central governments, private consulting firms as well as with firms providing transportation services. This course alone will not, however, prepare students for more specialist transportation positions such as computer modeler or traffic engineer. For students interested in working in such specialist positions, additional course work would be required.
Most of the course focuses on local transportation policy and planning. While some transportation planning occurs at the regional level, it has become increasingly evident that transportation must be planned in coordination with land use planning, which is largely controlled at the local (e.g., city and county) levels. In order to appreciate the importance of regional planning and its importance in promoting sustainable transport, it is essential to understand city and community-level planning, including the General Plan process.

Upon successful completion of the course, each student will be able to:

1. Discuss the principal critical mobility issues confronting local areas
2. List and describe relationships between the primary elements of transportation systems, such as modes, networks, controls and users
3. Characterize the various modes of the transportation system, including walking, bicycling, and various transit options (rail, bus, paratransit, etc.), as well as the evolution of street, highway and transit systems
4. Describe the scope of transportation and its environmental impact; analysis and mitigations.
5. Describe the role of local planning in establishing transportation policies and priorities
6. Work as a transportation planner or a transportation policy analyst.

The engagement activity, a collaborative small group project, is a notable part of the course. This activity will provide students with first-hand (and hands-on) experience in the field of transportation planning. The goals for the engagement activity include:

- Providing the student direct contact with the transportation planning profession, and people involved in and affected by transportation planning
- Familiarizing the student with transportation planning concepts, skills and applications, thereby increasing your marketable skills.

Opportunities for engagement with practicing transportation planning professionals will occur during the traffic calming and walking audit assignments, as well as during the small group project assignment. These assignments are discussed below.

For the 1-unit engagement unit, the instructors will spend an additional 15 hours during the semester on activities such as: designing the engagement unit activities and the related assignments, coordinating with community partners to implement the activities, advising students outside of class on a weekly basis as needed, and grading the engagement unit activity assignments.

**Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) Knowledge Components**

This course covers the following PAB Knowledge Components: 1d, 1e, 1f, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, and 3c.

1d) Human Settlements and History of Planning: understanding of the growth and development of places over time and across space.

1e) The Future: understanding of the relationships between past, present, and future in planning domains, as well as the potential for methods of design, analysis, intervention to influence the future.

1f) Global Dimensions of Planning: appreciation of interactions flows of people and materials, cultures, and differing approaches to planning across world regions.
2a) Research: tools for assembling and analyzing ideas and information from prior practice and scholarship, and from primary and secondary sources.

2b) Written, Oral and Graphic Communication: ability to prepare clear, accurate and compelling text, graphics and maps for use in documents and presentations.

2c) Quantitative and Qualitative Methods: data collection, analysis and modeling tools for forecasting, policy analysis, and design of projects and plans.

2d) Plan Creation and Implementation: integrative tools useful for sound plan formulation, adoption, and implementation and enforcement.

3c) Sustainability and Environmental Quality: appreciation of natural resource and pollution control factors in planning and understanding of how to create sustainable futures.

A complete list of the PAB Knowledge Components can be found at: http://www.sjsu.edu/urbanplanning/courses/pabknowledge.html.

**Required Course Texts to Purchase**


In addition, several articles and book chapters will be available for students to download from the -- URBP 256/URBP 156 class site on SJSU Canvas.

**Course Assignments and Grading Policy**

Your grade for the course will be based on the following assignments and graded activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments and Graded Activities</th>
<th>Percent of Course Grade</th>
<th>Course Learning Objectives Covered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly Reading Memos (1-2-page memos on readings)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation (regular class involvement)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking Assessment (summary of assessment done in the San Jose State area)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Calming Assessment (summary of assessment done in the San Jose State area)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TED Talk (8-10 or 5-7 min. talk on a topic chosen by the student)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Group Project (Engagement Activity) (summary and presentation on one of the six topics)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1c, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper (paper on an approved local transportation topic)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expectations of Graduate Students Compared to Undergraduate Students

Graduate students are expected to prepare a 15 to 20-page term paper; the requirement for undergraduates is a 10 to 12-page term paper.

Graduate student TED talks are expected to be from 8 to 10 minutes long; undergraduate TED talks need only be 5 to 7 minutes long.

Graduate student work will be graded in a more exacting manner than that of undergraduates since graduate students will have the advantage of more academic experience.

Calculation of Final Course Letter Grade

As indicated above, the final course grade incorporates seven graded activities: the reading memos and class participation are collectively worth 20 percent, the next three in the table are each worth 10 percent, the small group project is worth 25 percent, and the term paper is worth 25 percent.

The following scheme will be used to translate a total numeric score into a course grade:

A+ (97 to 100); A (93 to 97); A- (90 to 93); B+ (87 to 90); B (83 to 87); B- (80 to 83); C+ (77 to 80); C (73 to 77); C- (70 to 73); D+ (67 to 70); D (63 to 67); D- (60 to 63); F (below 60).

Other Grading and Assignment Issues

All late classwork will be marked down as follows.

Fortnightly Reading Memos/Participation: If received within 24 hours of each scheduled deadline, they will be marked down 0.2 point. Thereafter, they will be marked down as follows:

1-4 days late: 0.4 point  
4-7 days late: 0.6 point  
Over 7 days: no credit given

Walking and Traffic Calming Assessments: If received within 24 hours of the scheduled deadline, they will be marked down 1 point. Thereafter, they will be marked down as follows:

1-4 days late: 2 points  
Over 4 days: no credit given

TED Talk: This presentation must be given on one of the two dates indicated.

Small Group Project (Engagement Activity): If received within 24 hours of the scheduled deadline, it will be marked down two points (e.g., from a 23 out of 25 points to a 21 out of 25 points). Thereafter, it will be marked down according to the following schedule:

1-4 days late: 5 points  
4-7 days late: 10 points  
Over 7 days: no credit given

Term Paper: If received within 24 hours of the scheduled deadline, it will be marked down 2 points (e.g., from a 23 of 25 points to a 21 of 25 points). Thereafter, it will be marked down as follows:

1-4 days late: 5 points  
4-7 days late: 10 points  
Over 7 days: no credit given
Course Workload

Each student of this course is expected to spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally, three hours per unit per week with one of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course-related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Because this is a four-unit class, you can expect to spend a minimum of nine hours per week in addition to time spent in class and on scheduled tutorials or activities. Special projects or assessments may require additional work for the course. Careful time management will help you keep up with readings and assignments and enable you to be successful in all of your courses. For this class, you will have to undertake additional activities outside the class hours such as work on your group project, or research for your term paper. Details on how to complete the larger activities will be provided in handouts distributed later in the semester.

The course workload will primarily be based on the following activities:

- **Fortnightly Reading Memos** consist of one- to two-page summaries of reading highlights and the student’s own reflections on the readings. (Due via e-mail at 7 p.m. on the following dates: Feb. 4; Feb. 18; Mar. 3, Mar. 17; Apr. 7; Apr. 21 and Apr. 28).

- **Walking Assessment** will encompass a summary of pedestrian conditions and access, employing a methodology provided in class. This assessment will take place in the vicinity of San Jose State University. (Due via e-mail and hard copy in class at 7:30 p.m. on Mar. 4)

- **Traffic Calming Assessment** will similarly involve a summary of traffic calming conditions, using a methodology provided in class. (Due via e-mail and hard copy in class at 7:30 p.m. on Mar. 25).

- **TED Talk** will allow each student to give a presentation on a topic chosen by the student pertinent to the class subject matter (Scheduled for Apr. 15 and 22).

- The **Small Group Project (Engagement Activity)** will involve the collaboration of four to six students on one of a number of group assignments. Each student will be expected to actively participate in project development and submittal. Each group will choose a local transport topic, such as one of the following local transportation projects:
  1.) Providing transportation ideas and recommendations for an ongoing neighborhood plan for Alum Rock in the City of San Jose
  2.) Traffic calming plan for neighborhood in the SJSU environs
  3.) Simulated Downtown San Jose Transportation Management Association and Transportation Demand Management Plan
  4.) Active Transportation (Pedestrian and Bicycle) for the San Jose State campus and environs within one-half mile of campus
  5.) Agency plan for improving transit coordination in downtown San Jose.
  6.) Santa Cruz Rail and Trail
This project is a student engagement activity and as such, requires that students engage with practicing urban and regional planners in completing the assignments. The instructors will assist the groups in establishing this engagement. Small groups will submit a brief project outline by February 12 and will present a summary of their engagement activity and lessons learned on the final day of class, May 6.

- For the **Term Paper** each student will research and write a paper on a topic related to the course, i.e., a policy paper discussing a local or sustainable transportation planning topic. Each student topic must be approved by the instructors (term paper outline due Mar. 11 and final term paper due via e-mail and hard copy at 7:30 p.m. on May 6).

Here are some possible subject areas for term paper projects:

1. Sustainability and Transportation
2. Transportation, Land Use and Climate Change at the Local Level
3. Improving Access to San José State and its Environs.
4. Local Active Transport Planning
5. Policy Analysis of Gender, Aging and Other Demographic Transportation Issues
6. Policy Analysis of Road and Parking Pricing Options
7. Getting More from Less: Management of Local Transport Systems
8. Land Use and Urban Form Policy in Relation to Travel Demand
9. The Future of Local Public Transport
10. The Integration of Public Transport and the Bicycle
11. Transportation and the Local Environment
12. The Transportation/Circulation Element as a Component of the General Plan
13. Autonomous Vehicles
14. Other Subject Areas by Mutual Agreement with the Instructors

**Academic Integrity Statement, Plagiarism, and Citing Sources Properly**

SJSU’s Policy on Academic Integrity states: “Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University.” The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at [http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at [http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/).

Plagiarism is the use of someone else’s language, images, data, or ideas without proper attribution. It is a very serious offense both in the university and in your professional work. In essence, plagiarism
is both theft and lying: you have stolen someone else's ideas, and then lied by implying that they are your own.

Plagiarism will lead to grade penalties and a record filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. In severe cases, students may also fail the course or even be expelled from the university.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, it is your responsibility to make sure you clarify the issues before you hand in draft or final work.

Learning when to cite a source and when not to is an art, not a science. However, here are some common examples of plagiarism that you should be careful to avoid:

- Using a sentence (or even a part of a sentence) that someone else wrote without identifying the language as a quote by putting the text in quote marks and referencing the source.
- Paraphrasing somebody else's theory or idea without referencing the source.
- Using a picture or table from a webpage or book without reference the source.
- Using data some other person or organization has collected without referencing the source.

The University of Indiana has developed a very helpful website with concrete examples about proper paraphrasing and quotation. See in particular the following pages:

- Overview of plagiarism at [www.indiana.edu/~istd/overview.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/overview.html)
- Examples of plagiarism at [www.indiana.edu/~istd/examples.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/examples.html)
- Plagiarism quiz at [www.indiana.edu/~istd/test.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/test.html)

If you still have questions, feel free to talk to the instructors personally. There is nothing wrong with asking for help, whereas even unintentional plagiarism is a serious offense.

**Citation style**

It is important to properly cite any references you use in your assignments. The Department of Urban and Regional Planning uses Kate Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, Eighth Edition (University of Chicago Press, 2013, ISBN: 978-0226816388), so please follow this style. Copies are available in the SJSU King Library. Additionally, the book is relatively inexpensive, and you may wish to purchase a copy. Please note that Turabian’s book describes two systems for referencing materials: (1) “notes” (footnotes or endnotes), plus a corresponding bibliography, and (2) in-text parenthetical references, plus a corresponding reference list. In this class, students should use the second system, i.e., in-text parenthetical references.

**Accommodation for Disabilities**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with the instructors as soon as possible, or see us during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations register with the Accessible Education
Center or AEC (formerly known as the Disability Resource Center or DRC) to establish a record of their disability.

You can find information about the services SJSU offers to accommodate students with disabilities at the AEC website at www.aec.sjsu.edu.

**Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**
San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf.

**Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**
Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

**Library Liaison**
The SJSU Library Liaison for the Urban and Regional Planning Department is Ms. Toby Matoush. If you have questions, you can contact her at: toby.matoush@sjsu.edu or 408-808-2096.

**SJSU Writing Center**
The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. To make an appointment or refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter.

**SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services**
The SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services office is located on the corner of Seventh Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling and Psychological Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.
Dropping and Adding
Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness and related topics. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current SJSU academic year calendar document on the SJSU Academic Calendars webpage at: http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at: http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/lastdrops/policy/. All students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Classroom Protocol
Students are expected to arrive on time to class, be courteous to other students and the instructors and refrain from using a cell phone, texting and the internet in class, except as permitted by the instructors. In the event that you need to be absent, please notify both instructors at your earliest convenience. We recognize that illness, personal emergencies and other legitimate conflicts may occur, however please remember that each class meeting represents a substantial fraction of the total course. Be sure to check with the instructors regarding any materials or information given out at the session you were absent from, and if possible, obtain class notes from a classmate.
# URBP 256 / URBP 156  
**Spring 2020 Course Schedule**

(We will announce any changes in class or via e-mail).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29, 2020</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction (Rivasplata/Lee)</td>
<td>1) Tumlin, Chapters 1, 2</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5, 2020</td>
<td>Cities and Transport (Lee)</td>
<td>1) Newman &amp; Kenworthy, Chapters 1, 4, 5</td>
<td>Reading Memo (due Feb. 4);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 12, 2020</td>
<td>Active Transport (Rivasplata)</td>
<td>1) Tumlin, Chapters 6, 7</td>
<td>Small Group Project Outline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 19, 2020</td>
<td>Transport, the Environment and Health (Lee)</td>
<td>1) Tumlin, Chapter 3</td>
<td>Reading Memo (due Feb. 18);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 26, 2020</td>
<td>Urban Transport Abroad (Rivasplata)</td>
<td>1) Newman &amp; Kenworthy, Chapters 2, 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 4, 2020</td>
<td>Public Transport (Rivasplata)</td>
<td>1) Tumlin, Chapter 8</td>
<td>Reading Memo (due Mar. 3); Walking Assessment Assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 11, 2020</td>
<td>TOD &amp; Access to Public Transport (Lee)</td>
<td>1) Tumlin, Chapter 12</td>
<td>Term Paper Outline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 18, 2020</td>
<td>Traffic Calming (Rivasplata)</td>
<td>1) ITE, Traffic Calming Measures</td>
<td>Reading Memo (due Mar. 17);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 25, 2020</td>
<td>Parking Reform (Lee)</td>
<td>1) Tumlin, Chapter 10</td>
<td>Traffic Calming Assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 1, 2020</td>
<td>Spring Break (No Class)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 8, 2020</td>
<td>Streets (Rivasplata)</td>
<td>1) Tumlin, Chapter 5</td>
<td>Reading Memo (due Apr. 7);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 15, 2020</td>
<td>Goods Movement and Local Planning (Lee)</td>
<td>1) Dablanc &amp; Rodrigue</td>
<td>Student TED Talks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 22, 2020</td>
<td>The Auto in Cities; Carsharing (Lee)</td>
<td>1) Tumlin, Chapters 9, 11</td>
<td>Reading Memo (due Apr. 21); Student TED Talks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### April 29, 2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TDM and Accessibility (Rivasplata)</th>
<th>1) Tumlin, Chapter 13</th>
<th>Reading Memo (due Apr. 28);</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Litman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Rivasplata &amp; LeRoux (article)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### May 6, 2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wrap Up: Putting Pieces Together (Rivasplata/Lee)</th>
<th>1) Tumlin, Chapter 4</th>
<th>Small Group Project Presentations; Term Paper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Newman &amp; Kenworthy, Chapters 6, 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) EU Evidence Project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Assigned Readings:**


*EU Evidence Project. 2016. *World Transport Policy and Practice*. 22 (1/2), 4-225.*

Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). 2017. Traffic Calming Measures. Available at: [https://www.ite.org/technical-resources/traffic-calming/traffic-calming-measures/](https://www.ite.org/technical-resources/traffic-calming/traffic-calming-measures/)


* Available on URBP 256/URBP 156 class site on SJSU Canvas.
** Denotes URBP 256 Course Text.  
Rev.21 Jan. 2020